

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 198885
ORIGIN SNM-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 H-01 SS-15 /032 R

DRAFTED BY S/NM:RMGIBSON:SCT
APPROVED BY S/NM:MFALCO
EA:ROAKLEY
H:KFOLGER

-----124803 080150Z /61-S

R 072029Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY RANGOON
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 198885

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, HK, TH, EM, TW

SUBJECT: DEBRIEFING OF EVANS AND MANN

REFERENCE: HONG KONG 9279 (NOTAL)

1. ON JULY 27, SENIOR ADVISER MATHEA FALCO AND DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROBERT OAKLEY CALLED UPON CONGRESSMEN EVANS AND MANN TO DISCUSS THEIR RECENT VISIT TO HONG KONG AND THAILAND. IN ADDITION TO THOSE TWO COUNTRIES, NARCOTICS MATTERS IN BURMA AND TAIWAN WERE DISCUSSED AS WELL. THE MEETING WAS MOST INFORMATIVE AND PROVIDED THE OPPORTUNITY TO FURTHER CONGRESSIONAL AND EXECUTIVE BRANCH COOPERATION IN INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL EFFORTS.

2. IN DISCUSSING THEIR HONG KONG VISIT, THE CONGRESSMEN
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 198885

INDICATED SATISFACTION AT THE COORDINATION AND COMMITMENT BY BOTH CONSULATE GENERAL AND HONG KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO CONTROL ILLICIT NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING. ALTHOUGH SOMEWHAT CONCERNED OVER THE BUREAUCRATIC RIVALRY BETWEEN POLICE AND CUSTOMS IN THE COLONY, THE CONGRESSMEN EXPRESSED THEIR BELIEF THAT THE SITUATION WAS IMPROVING. THEY DID EXPRESS CONCERN, HOWEVER, AT THE FAILURE OF THE

DEPARTMENT TO FOLLOW-UP ON LAST YEAR'S REQUEST BY MACAO OFFICIALS FOR DEA TRAINING IN THAT PORTUGUESE COLONY.

CONGRESSMAN EVANS RECOUNTED CONVERSATIONS WITH PORTUGUESE OFFICIALS WHO HAD ASSURED HIM THAT SUCH TRAINING WOULD NOT CREATE A PROBLEM WITH RESPECT TO RELATIONS WITH THE PRC. AFTER REVIEWING THE QUESTION OF DEA TRAINING IN MACAO (DRAWING UPON VIEWS EXPRESSED IN REFTEL), THE DEPARTMENT PLANS TO AUTHORIZE INCLUSION OF SUCH TRAINING IN DEA'S FY 1979 TRAINING PROGRAM.

3. ALSO WHILE IN HONG KONG, CONGRESSMAN EVANS SPOKE WITH AN OFFICIAL BURMESE ON THE QUESTION OF ASSIGNING A DEA AGENT TO RANGOON ON A PERMANENT BASIS. THE CONGRESSMAN EXPRESSED HIS CONVICTION THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO WORK FOR PERMANENT DEA REPRESENTATION IN RANGOON, AND URGED THAT GUB AGREE TO SUCH AN ASSIGNMENT IF THE USG COULD GUARANTEE THAT THERE WOULD BE NO ATTENDANT PUBLICITY CONNECTED WITH THE DEA PRESENCE. OAKLEY REITERATED STANDARD GUB PROBLEMS WITH FORMAL ASSIGNMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS, ALTHOUGH IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE FOR GUB TO ACCEPT EVENTUALLY SOMEONE FROM DEA NOT IDENTIFIED AS SUCH. HE NOTED THAT THE GUB WOULD BE CHARY AS TO RELIABILITY OF ANY ASSURANCES ON PUBLICITY GIVEN PAST EXPERIENCES WITH DEA. MS. FALCO MADE POINT THAT ONE SHOULD NOT EXPECT PRESENCE OF DEA AGENT TO HAVE ANY MEANINGFUL EFFECT ON GUB ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES SINCE THERE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 198885

IS ALREADY EXCELLENT COOPERATION WITH EMBASSY RANGOON IN EXCHANGE OF INTELLIGENCE, AND DEA AGENTS ARE ABLE TO VISIT BURMA WHENEVER THEY WISH ON A TEMPORARY BASIS.

4. THE CONGRESSMEN HAD PARTICULAR PRAISE FOR PRIME MINISTER KRIANGSAK AND HIS GOVERNMENT'S NARCOTICS CONTROL EFFORTS. BOTH THE CONGRESSMEN AND THE DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES AGREED THAT THE US SHOULD CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE THE THAI EFFORT AND ASSIST IT THROUGH APPROPRIATE FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. ON THE QUESTION OF HELICOPTERS, THE CONGRESSMEN RECOMMENDED IMPROVED MAINTENANCE AND MORE EFFICIENT USE OF EXISTING HELICOPTERS. IN ADDITION TO EXPRESSING AGREEMENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S PROPOSAL TO PROVIDE HELICOPTER SPARE PARTS AND RELATED TRAINING, CONGRESSMAN EVANS SUGGESTED THAT WE EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF INCREASING CURRENT HELICOPTER EFFECTIVENESS THROUGH PROVIDING THEM WITH EXTRA FUEL TANKS TO TRIPLE PRESENT RANGE. WE BELIEVE THIS PROPOSAL HAS CONSIDERABLE MERIT AND WOULD APPRECIATE THE EMBASSY'S VIEWS ON THE IDEA. ALSO RELATED TO EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE, THE CONGRESSMEN RECOMMENDED THAT WE IMPROVE SPARE PARTS SUPPLY AND MAINTENANCE OF THAI CUSTOMS PATROL CRAFT, WHICH ARE IN SITUATION OF ILL REPAIR

ANALOGOUS TO HELICOPTERS. THE DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE AN UPDATE ON THE STATUS OF CUSTOMS BOAT MAINTENANCE, AND RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO WHAT MIGHT BE DONE.

5. THE TWO CONGRESSMEN SEEMED PARTICULARLY PLEASED WITH PROGRESS ON CROP SUBSTITUTION AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN NORTHERN THAILAND. THEY HAD PRAISE FOR THE ROYAL FAMILY'S COMMITMENT TO THE HILL TRIBES AND STRESSED THAT THE UN PROGRAMS SHOULD BE EXPANDED, PREFERABLY BASED UPON INCREASING CONTRIBUTIONS FROM OTHER WESTERN GOVERNMENTS. DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS BRIEFED THE CONGRESSMEN ON PROGRESS IN CURRENT RTG-UNFDAC EFFORTS TO DEVELOP A MASTER PLAN FOR DEVELOPMENT OF NORTHERN THAILAND'S OPIUM PRODUCING REGIONS, AND OF OUR OWN PLANS TO SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT IN THE MAE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 STATE 198885

CHAEM WATERSHED AREA ON A BILATERAL BASIS. OAKLEY TOLD THEM THAT AMBASSADOR ABRAMOWITZ HAD INDICATED HIS INTENT TO WORK ACTIVELY WITH KEY AMBASSADORS TO STIMULATE GREATER PARTICIPATION IN NARCOTICS EFFORTS.

6. DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS WERE SURPRISED TO LEARN FROM CONGRESSMAN EVANS THAT THE VARIOUS NARCOTICS ATTACHES FROM EUROPEAN AND OTHER COUNTRIES STATIONED IN BANGKOK WERE NOT PROVING AS EFFECTIVE AS THEY MIGHT. THE DEPARTMENT AGREES WITH HIS RECOMMENDATION THAT THE EMBASSY TAKE THE LEAD IN ESTABLISHING REGULAR MONTHLY WORKING MEETINGS OF THE FOREIGN NARCOTICS ATTACHES IN BANGKOK, PREFERABLY WITHOUT THE RTG. THE KIND OF COORDINATION MECHANISM COULD ALSO SERVE TO FURTHER CLOSER WORKING RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THOSE FOREIGN OFFICIALS AND THE RTG.

7. CONGRESSMEN EVANS AND MANN EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT THE CLOSURE OF DEA'S OFFICE IN TAIPEI AT A TIME WHEN THERE IS INCREASING INDICATIONS OF CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THAI AND CHINESE TRAFFICKING GROUPS IN TAIWAN. THEY RECOGNIZED, HOWEVER, THE PURPOSE BEHIND THE CLOSURE AS EXPLAINED BY MR. OAKLEY, AND SEEMED TO UNDERSTAND THAT IT WAS FOR THE BEST IN THE LONG RUN. CHRISTOPHER

NOTE BY OC/T: DISSEMINATION COORDINATED WITH S/S-O, SNIDER.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRUG CONTROL, DEBRIEFINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE198885
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RMGIBSON:SCT
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780323-0808
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780891/aaaacyco.tel
Line Count: 161
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b55e9a67-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SNM
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 HONG KONG 9279
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1817168
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEBRIEFING OF EVANS AND MANN
TAGS: SNAR, HK, TH, US, TW
To: HONG KONG BANGKOK MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b55e9a67-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014